

as the printed expression of organized and scientific medicine in California. However, what may seem good to an editor may not always appeal to the readers of a publication; and since academic discussion of contents and format of a publication is not very satisfactory, it seems desirable to bring off the press several issues of the OFFICIAL JOURNAL, in which various suggestions, in the report* recently made, will be incorporated. Readers may then be able to determine for themselves their own preferences in contents, features and format, and the Council and the Publication Committee will be glad to receive their comments on these matters as a guide for future consideration and procedure.

CHIROPRACTIC INITIATIVE: PROPOSITION NO. 2

The Vote on the Chiropractic Initiative.—On November 7, when the current issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE will be about ready for the mails, the 1939 onslaught of cultist healing art practice on medical standards and practice will have been decided at the polls by the citizens of California. Were it not for this year's "Ham and Eggs" vagary, with a possibility of unpredictable political alignments and associations of related character, one would now be fairly safe in prophesying deserved defeat for the Proposition No. 2, a proposed law presented for the consideration of the electorate by a group of chiropractors, as an amendment to the existing chiropractic act of 1922; and designed, through high-sounding and confusing phraseology, to extend the scope of healing art work of that cultist group into the domain of medical practice and scientific medicine.

It is to be hoped that the informative literature, placed, prior to the election, in the hands of physicians by the California Public Health League, was effectively distributed. If all have done their part, Proposition No. 2, in spite of this year's peculiar political line-up, will have gone down to defeat.

To each and everyone, therefore, who may have rendered aid in the efforts to protect the public health through defeat of the proposed chiropractic initiative, heartiest thanks are extended. If Proposition No. 2 received the rejection it so amply merited, the people of California will have another reason to be grateful to the medical men and women of the State and their many friends.

CALIFORNIA PHYSICIANS' SERVICE: A VOLUNTARY, NONPROFIT MEDICAL SERVICE CORPORATION

Recent Organization Meeting at Fresno.—In the City of Fresno, on Saturday, October 14, members of the Board of Trustees of California Physicians' Service met with the newly-elected administrative members and the appointed deputy medical directors for purposes of further organization, to hear reports on what had been accomplished to date, and to consider the work ahead.

In this issue appears an account of the Fresno meeting, submitted by the officers of California

Physicians' Service; and appended thereto is the fee table, with other information (see pages 334-338).

Since five thousand members of the California Medical Association have registered with California Physicians' Service, the Association members in general should improve this opportunity to orient themselves concerning the progress made by California Physicians' Service, the first state-wide medical service organization to come into existence under the sponsorship of a state medical association.

CLINICAL CONFERENCES: POSTGRADUATE CONTINUATION COURSES

Educational Number of The Journal of the American Medical Association.—Graduate work received considerable prominence in the interesting educational number of *The Journal of the American Medical Association* (issue of August 26, 1939, pages 773-790). The account of the activities carried on by the state medical associations throughout the Union shows how widespread is the interest in clinical conferences, when such meetings are brought within easy reach of physicians who, under the exigencies of private practice, often find it difficult to travel to more or less distant parts of the land, to avail themselves of graduate courses designed to keep them abreast of advancing medical science and methods.

It is hard to draw the line on what constitutes graduate training; for, in one sense, all medical experience, reading and study, and even the meetings of county medical societies, are nothing else than follow-up or continuation studies, carried on from undergraduate and intern training days.

In this connection, attention may be called to the progress made during recent years in county society programs, through elimination, more and more, of the didactic or dry paper presentations, and the substitution of clinical demonstrations.

* * *

Opportunities for Clinical Conferences in California.—Component county medical societies of the California Medical Association are again urged to consider the opportunities for clinical conferences or refresher or continuation courses now available to all if the suggestions and opportunities offered by the California Medical Association Committee on Postgraduate Activities are utilized. Every county medical society should have a Committee on Postgraduate Work actively working in conjunction with the society's officers. The California Medical Association Committee on Postgraduate Activities, in efforts to promote interest in one- and two-day clinical conferences and continuation courses, is prepared to coöperate fully with local committees in organizing such meetings.

Available literature, obtainable from the California Medical Association Central Office, include: A leaflet, in which types of conferences are briefly considered and practical lines of procedure outlined; a list of suitable topics, as printed in the "Five-Year Study Program" (supplement to the October, 1938, issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE); a roster of several hundred physicians who have stated their willingness to participate as

* In Council minutes in this issue, see page 332 (Item 20).